

above? Now we will see what the Baptist publications say of the same lesson.

FROM THE BAPTIST "ADVANCED QUARTERLY."

To be baptized of him: it was not from a sudden impulse, because he saw others baptized; but he came to John for this purpose; walking the toilsome way. Jesus exalts baptism—1. By commanding it. 2. By submitting to it. 3. By the pains he took to come to his baptism.

To fulfil all righteousness: Jesus was particular to conform in all things to the Father's will, and to leave undone no requirement. Baptism was not a "matter of difference" with him; nor would something else do as well. When he was baptized: the meaning of the word baptizo, the place where the ordinance was performed, and all the circumstances, show that his baptism was immersion. Out of the water: Rev. Ver., from the water. After his immersion, he went up the river bank, away from the water. In Mark, in the Revised Version as well as in the Old Version, out of the water (i: 10).

Then besides this, we find the following remark in the same Quarterly, among the notes of the preceding lesson "John the Baptist."

John the Baptist: or, John the Immerser. So called because he came baptizing in the Jordan.

There is no uncertain sound in this concerning immersion.

Again we find many of our schools using the United Brethren literature printed at Dayton, Ohio. Now we will see what they have to say about this.

FROM THE UNITED BRETHREN'S "OUR BIBLE LESSON QUARTERLY."

"Then he suffered him." That is, consented to baptize him. We add a word as to the manner in which John baptized. The stronger probability is, that he immersed his subjects, and Jesus was probably so baptized. But it does not follow that other modes, as sprinkling or pouring, are not baptism. The Savior administered the sacrament of the Lord's Supper to the disciples lying on couches, as is generally believed. Some believers now receive the supper kneeling, and others sitting; and there are perhaps few, if any, who receive it reclining, and none who think it necessary to a valid administration that the attitude of the disciples on that occasion be assumed. So in baptism, it is not the mode, nor the quantity of water used, but the spirit of the act, and that it be administered in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, that constitutes the true baptism.

Under existing circumstances, as we have no literature of our own, is there any question as to which is the best for our Sunday school?

Besides this, I have now before me a paper published by the Baptist Association, named *The Young Reaper*. On the right hand of the title is a baptismal scene, a young girl is led into the water by the minister. And every child that gets this paper, sees this picture, as it is on every issue, and the gospel idea is that "they both went down into the water" is impressed upon the young mind, as it can be in no other way.

How much better and truthful

is this than sending out pictures of the baptism of Jesus, where John is on a ledge of rock, out of the water sprinkling water from a shell on the Savior, while he stands in the water. This we have seen in one of Cook's papers.

Brethren, let us be careful how we teach these important matters, and get them impressed on the minds of our children. We hope the brother who was ready to question the superiority of the Baptist publication for use in our Sunday schools is thoroughly convinced by the above comparison.

Then as to the quality of this paper, printing &c., the Baptists are far superior. And they publish anything in Sunday school work that the others do. To be convinced let our superintendents send for samples.

MASON.

EDITORIAL ITEMS.

A little paper called the *Light House*, published in Chicago, makes this point upon the Seventh-Day Adventists: "They claim that it is an actual historical fact that at a certain time, about 500 after Christ, the pope did change the Sabbath to Sunday. . . . Not one single historian in all the annals of the world has ever stated that the pope changed the Sabbath. For twenty-eight years I longed for such a testimony, but found it not. Then if we admit on their mere assertion the boastful claim of the Catholics that they changed the Sabbath, why not also admit their claim that the pope is infallible, that he has the keys of St. Peter, the chair of the apostle, the only apostolical succession, etc.? Seventh-day people quickly repudiate all these other claims of the Catholics, but eagerly admit their claim that they changed the Sabbath, simply because this suits their theory, for which they can find no other proof."

A very interesting article is found on the inside of this issue regarding the Convent at Ephrata, Pa. It will be noticed also that our correspondent, Bro. Obed Snowberger, is one of the three who now compose the remnant of the society that at one time flourished there. It is a pity, though that that property which was once consecrated for a holy purpose, can not now be made to aid the Lord's cause instead of being a bone of contention in the Courts.

An interesting account of Eld. Geo. Wolf's last hours is found in this number. How calmly he fell asleep in Jesus.

Bro. A. A. Cober has been indisposed so that he was hardly able to fill his appointments. We hope by this time he is well again.

Bro. S. H. Bashor has written us these interesting facts and news:

I have now been in the Christian ministry thirteen years, during which time I have never been out of the harness except when too ill to reach my appointments or at school. I close my labors as pastor, at Enon and Hudson, on Sunday, Sept. 11th, and before again entering the revival field of the church, have concluded to heed the physician's advice and take a few months' vacation. To this end sister Bashor and I will visit the Rockies and Pacific slope. I think I am entitled to a short respite from labor and in hopes of fully regaining my old time vigor and health, will take it. I am now cancelling my engagements with a view to that end. Will visit my father and other relatives and again see how it goes at my old home.

We hope that by the time our esteemed brother shall have concluded his tour and visit, there shall be a complete system of church work inaugurated, and that an inviting field will be awaiting him. Although more than a dozen of years in the ministry, he is still able to accomplish a still greater work than has already crowned his abundant labors, if he is blessed with health.

Last week about a hundred souls were plunged into death by a railroad accident near Chatsworth, Ill. An excursion train ran into a burning bridge, and all were precipitated beneath. More lives are lost by accidents to excursion trains than by all other railroad accidents put together. It almost impresses one with the belief that God

does not favor such pursuits of pleasure.

The good work is still going on at Conemaugh, Pa. On the 7th, brother D. F. Ramsey baptized two converts and one was reclaimed. That made seven accessions by baptism during the last six weeks. Our brother is proving to be a useful worker in the church.

Sister Hannah Lowman of Roann Ind., deserves the name of Tract Preacher, as she does her preaching by buying and distributing tracts.

It now begins to appear that a Convention is to be held here. Brethren are sending in orders for entertainment. This is right and those who do so shall have a good bed in readiness when they arrive, and desirable entertainment in other respects.

The prospects for a good attendance at the College are becoming brighter as the time of opening approaches.

Read the revised program of the Convention, and do not forget all about it.

Save this copy of the *EVANGELIST*, as you may need it to refer to.

Sister E. Ninninger, of Virginia, orders the *EVANGELIST* to the Y. M. C. Association rooms, Roanoke, Va., and says, I hope this little donation may be the means of presenting many truths to the many young men who stop in those rooms in search of knowledge. We hope so too, and thank the sister for this kindness.

This week we give railroad arrangements for the Convention. There has been a great change since the introduction of the Inter-State Commerce Law, in the way that railroad companies handle such matters. There is now a Traffic Association which seems to superintend this business, and railroad companies have nothing to do with it. There is, for this reason, little to be done in securing rates. One man does the work, and authorizes the rates, instead of individual companies.

We have received the manuscript of the program for the Ninth Annual Convention of the Brethren Sunday School of Western Pennsylvania, and it will be printed next week. It came too late to be used this week. It will be held at Myersdale on Sept. 13th, 14th and 15th, 1887. It is an interesting program. We notice that P. J. Brown's name is on for a discussion. He seems to be a regular participant in this meeting of Brethren Sunday Schools.

Bro. Rinehart informs us that it is an error that 100 people died in Richmond, Va., from the effects of heat, as we stated week-before-last. He says the greatest number for one week was eighty-six, while the usual number was about forty-five per week. He states that the greatest heat registered was 106 degrees.

Bro. E. L. Yoder will commence a protracted meeting at Pickell, Neb., on the 23rd. Also, on the 27th inst., in the evening, a Lovefeast will be held at the same place, and a cordial invitation is extended to all. Pickell is located on the U. P. R. R., ten miles north of Beatrice.

John Taylor, the Mormon leader, died July 25th. He was one who refused to obey the Federal laws and the last years of his life were spent in secret places to avoid arrest.

The New York *Observer* has six or seven editors. A large part of the editorial work of the *EVANGELIST* is done in the evenings and mornings after laboring men have quit work, or before they commence. We anxiously await the time when our church paper shall be patronized so that no individual shall be obliged to do this, or beg or rob other men of their earnings to carry on the work.

The church at Adrian, Mo., will be represented by letter at the Convention.

Enthusiasm is a power that aids good works while it is active, but it is an evil omen where it is intense. It means that disaster and decay is to follow. It is the constant flowing of the water that wears away the rock, and it is the regular labor in the church which gives it strength, vigor and endurance. Christ was not a sensationalist nor an enthusiast.

That is certainly a remarkable work that is now going on at Miamisburg, this state. The Holy Spirit is operating on the hearts of the people there, and they are laboring under the blessings of God.

Bro. Rinehart very truly says that if we are not willing to study the methods of religious organizations which have been successful, we are stiff-necked. We should at all times be ready to examine the systems of other churches and endeavor to appropriate as much as may recommend itself to our good judgment. He is certainly a very imprudent man who refuses to accept that which costs him nothing and is valuable to him, because it did not originate with him.

The days are growing shorter, the busy season almost over and soon earnest work can be commenced in the evangelistic field.

We are informed that in the locality of Ephrata, Pa., would be an excellent field for the Brethren to build up.

Messenger correspondents are now wrestling with the Passover question, and they meet with the usual difficulties.

Bro. Abram Cassel, of Harleysville, Pa., still continues to be an accumulator of Tunker literature. He is very anxious to have every fragment of the various regular publications.

The Brethren Tract Society still continues to supply good books. This week they advertise "The Home Beyond." This is certainly a most beautiful theme. Blessed those shall be who are so unspeakably happy as to overcome all temptations and enter there.

J. P. Myers, brother to Bro. D. J. Myers, of this place, died yesterday morning, of consumption. He lived near Ashland.

Spare Moments at the Desk.

God is a God of order; "order is heaven's first law."

The church has been working and is still working without any system or order, (as a body,) consequently labor is lost. Let an army of soldiers be scattered hither and thither, let an opposing, compact army attack and it will sweep them out of existence one by one, though their numbers may be twice as great. But let that army concentrate itself and its resisting power will either give it victory or prevent defeat.

The church is the army of God, fighting the devil and his well organized hosts, not a compact army alone but a most complete and well organized force in all points. Spies who are always on the alert, hunting out the weak points, that the main force may more successfully attack.

The church can only meet this force by a more complete and thorough organization of all her forces and by using all possible and legitimate strategy. Therefore the convention is called for the purpose of organization. Let every church send her delegates; let a thorough system of yearly state and district associations be organized, with a National Convention every five years; the only purpose of such associations to be the furtherance of God's kingdom on earth, not in one little destroying the congregational powers of any individual church.

Home Missions is the principal work to be thoroughly put upon its feet. From this goes out all kinds of good works. This should have its prime head in the church as a whole, from which it should work to the states and districts.

This is the most needful work of the coming convention, which meets as it should, at Ashland. The church can then more clearly see the necessity of the College, and the convention should by one effort, as one man, take hold and put it above all future embarrassments.

The man who expects to draw all his knowledge from within is very unwise. The church that is too stiff-necked to learn some-

thing from others, is likewise unwise. Then look into the system of other churches which have done so much, while we have been waiting to be hired.

DAVID REINHART.

Richmond, Va.

Adrian, Mo.

The cause is still moving along slowly but surely at this place, and is gaining ground numerically, and in the estimation of the outside world as well as amongst other religious denominations. We are having preaching once a month and Sabbath school every Sabbath. The indications are at present that there is quite a harvest awaiting the evangelist's sickle. The greatest difficulty we have to meet is the laborers are so few—that is so few are actively engaged that the good work is necessarily retarded.

We held a very interesting council meeting on Saturday before the 3rd Lord's day in July. All passed off pleasantly and harmoniously, and we decided to hold our love feast on the 24th of Sept.

The National convention question was taken up and considered but as a church we decided not to send a representative in person, on account of financial weakness, but a committee was appointed to frame a written representation to be submitted to the church at our next appointment for its approval or rejection; and last but not least of all, a sister came over from the German Baptist and was received into the fellowship of the Brethren church.

A. SHOWALTER.

Almena, Mich.

I have been serving the Lord for about a year. I came out under Bro. Irwin's preaching and I want to be ever found faithful to the cause of Christ. We are all working onward and upward to that bright eternal city, whose builder and maker is God.

Aug. the 3rd, I went to Elkhart, Ind., to visit brother and sister Irwin, and found them strong in the faith, and we had a glorious time talking about the wonderful goodness and tender mercies of God. On Aug. the 5th, Bro. Irwin and myself went to Goshen, Ind., to visit friends. On our return we stopped at Bro. and sister Garver's, and found them strong in the faith.

On Aug. the 6th, I parted with brother and sister Irwin. On my return I met Bro. Snyder, of the Fennville church. Went to meeting Sunday night where he preached.

Now to the brethren at large, let us one and all grow in grace and in the knowledge of the truth and fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life, and ever prove faithful to Him who called us.

HENRY NEALE.

Communion Notice.

The Brethren at Clifton Mills, Preston Co., W. Va., (the Lord willing) will hold their communion services on Saturday evening, October 1st, 1887, commencing at five o'clock. A general invitation is extended to brethren and sisters of adjoining congregations.

S. W. WILT.

MT. UNION COLLEGE.

Fall term of Mt. Union College, Mt. Union, O., commences August 33rd. Send for catalogue.